

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Education  
Willow Springs Consolidated School District No. 108  
Wednesday, July 19, 2023  
Willow Springs School Library**

**Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 6:31 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Members present: Anderson, Mierop, Bonomo, Patterson, and Wojciak  
Administration: Superintendent Bahn & Principal Oreluk

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President, Joe Bonomo.

**Public Comment**

Community members are invited to share their questions, comments or concerns with the school Board. When speaking, citizens should state their name and address for the record and limit their presentation to three minutes. All comments are a matter of public record and as such will be documented and recorded. Where possible, the Board will answer factual questions immediately. A written response may be provided when information is not available. If a response would involve discussion of board policy or decisions which might be of interest to citizens not present at the meeting, the Board may place the item on a future meeting agenda.

Additionally, board policy 2:230 permits the Board President to shorten a person's opportunity to speak. "The President may also deny the opportunity to speak to a person who has previously addressed the Board on the same subject." (2:230)

None

**Board/Superintendent Announcements**

The superintendent did not have any announcements.

**Financial Report**

The superintendent stated that he will send out the June report as soon as he receives it. Hopefully that will be early next week from the new company.

**Consent Agenda**

The superintendent recommends the approval of the consent agenda.

**Motion 24-001 by Wojciak, seconded by Mierop as recommended by the superintendent for the approval of the consent agenda items:**

**Consent #1**

**The superintendent recommends the approval of the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting and closed session for June 28, 2023.**

**Consent #2**

**The superintendent recommends the approval of the payroll and the approval of the bills in the amount of \$145,197.38 (7b), the reimbursement of the Imprest Fund in the amount of \$20.70 (7c) and approval of the Activity Fund balance of \$25,666.74 (7d) for the month of July 2023.**

**Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Anderson, Mierop, Bonomo, Patterson, and Wojciak**

## **Item 8 Action Items**

### **Declare a Vacancy in the Elected Office of Board Member School District 108**

The resignation of Renee Ristic became effective when she emailed the Board on 7/10/2023.

The superintendent notified the South Cook ROE as required and received the following information pertaining to the filling of this vacancy.

Per the Illinois School Code (105 ILCS 5/10-4, 105 ILCS 5/10-19), when a vacancy occurs on a board, the remaining board members have 60 days to fill the vacancy. Should the board of education fail to act within the 60 days after the vacancy occurs, the regional superintendent must, within 30 days after the remaining members have failed to fill the vacancy, fill the vacancy by appointment.

In order to meet the 60 day deadline, the board will need to approve the new member by September 8, 2023; if the board fails to fill the vacancy by that date, the regional superintendent has 30 days to fill the vacancy; the 30 day deadline to fill the vacancy, if not filled by the board, would be October 8, 2023.

**Motion 24-002 by Patterson, seconded by Mierop to declare a vacancy in the elected office of Board Member School District 108 effective 7/10/2023 due to the Board Member's Renee Ristic's Resignation.  
Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Anderson, Mierop, Bonomo, Patterson, and Wojciak**

### **Approval of Resignations**

The superintendent included five letters of resignation from staff members that he received over the past few weeks. One of these resignations was somewhat anticipated, as administration knew he was interviewing for other positions. The other four were not anticipated and honestly upsetting. It is an extremely competitive market currently for teachers and we are not the only district losing teachers to other districts that offer higher salaries. These openings have been posted and administration is in the process of filling these positions as quickly as possible.

The superintendent recommends the acceptance of the five resignations from, ~~Brianna Bottenhagen;~~ Sean Masterton; Jill Anaya; Jason Noble and Alysa Ochenkowski.

**Motion 24-003 by Wojciak, seconded by Patterson as recommended by the superintendent to accept the resignations of licensed staff as listed.**

**Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Anderson, Mierop, Bonomo, Patterson, and Wojciak**

## **Item 9 Presentations/Committee Reports**

None

## **Item 10 Information/Discussion Items**

### **10A – ESSER III**

The superintendent included a short powerpoint presentation with information regarding the ESSER III allocation. This is the third and final federal distribution from the CARES Act. It is also the largest allocation, but has more limitations. He walked the Board through the funding and the plan to determine needs for this funding.

### **10B Pollinator Garden Information**

This is an item that Bonomo asked the superintendent to include in this month's packet. The superintendent also included an attachment with more information about this topic. Bonomo provided information to the Board and lead the discussion about this possibility here at Willow. Bonomo stated that this would give something for the students to be involved in with the community.

Anderson stated that it would be great for the students and thinks it is a wonderful idea.

Patterson asked where it would be set up.

The superintendent would like to get feedback from Sag Moraine Native Plant Community before deciding this So it will be determined at a later date.

**Item 11 Communication/Correspondence**

None

**Item 12 Upcoming Events/Activities**

August 23, 2023 – First day of school  
August 23, 2023 – Board of Education meeting

**Item 13 Items for Next Agenda**

To be determined

**Item 14 Closed Session**

The Superintendent Requests to conduct a Closed Session pursuant to Chapter 102, Paragraph 2 of the Statutes of the State of Illinois and as per board policy for the purpose(s) of discussing the selection of a person to fill the vacant Board member office, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3), collective bargaining with the district’s employees or their representatives, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) at 6:59 p. m.

**Motion 24-004 by Wojciak, seconded by Mierop to go into Closed Session at 6:59 p.m. with the purpose of discussing** selection of a person to fill the vacant Board member office, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3), collective bargaining with the district’s employees or their representatives, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

**Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Anderson, Mierop, Bonomo, Patterson, and Wojciak**

**Motion 24-005 by Anderson, seconded by Wojciak Board returned to open session at 7:59 p.m.**

**Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Anderson, Mierop, Bonomo, Patterson, and Wojciak**

**Item 15 Closing Actions**

**Item 19 Adjournment**

**Adjournment at 7:59 p.m.**

**Motion 24-006 Wojciak, seconded by Mierop**

**Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Anderson, Mierop, Bonomo, Patterson, and Wojciak**

  
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President

  
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Secretary